

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (canceled)

Claim 2 (currently amended): A process for the production of multi-layer coatings in light metallic color shades, comprising the successive steps:

(1) applying a 10 to 30  $\mu\text{m}$  thick base coat layer to a substrate provided with an EDC (electrodeposition coating) primer,

(2) applying a clear coat layer onto the base coat layer,

(3) jointly curing the base coat and clear coat layers,

wherein the base coat layer is applied in a first layer and in a second layer;

the first layer comprises a modified water-borne metallic base coat produced by mixing an unmodified water-borne metallic base coat with an admixture component and

the second layer comprises the unmodified water-borne metallic base coat, wherein the unmodified water-borne metallic base coat has a solids content of 15 to 30 wt.% and has a ratio by weight of pigment content to resin solids content of 0.3:1 to 0.45:1,

wherein the pigment content consists ~~60~~ of 90 to 100% by weight of at least one non-leafing aluminum pigment with a platelet thickness of over 100 to 500 nm and 0 to 40 10% by weight of at least one pigment different from aluminum pigments,

wherein the pigment(s) different from aluminum pigments are selected by nature and quantity in such a way that the multi-layer coating obtained on the conclusion of process step (3) exhibits a brightness  $L^*$  (according to CIEL\*a\*b\*, DIN 6174), measured at an illumination angle of 45 degrees to the perpendicular and an observation angle of 15 degrees to the specular, of at least 80 units and

wherein at least 50% by weight of the non-leafing aluminum pigment(s) are selected from the group consisting of non-leafing aluminum pigments passivated by chromating, non-leafing aluminum pigments coated with a silicon-oxygen network and combinations thereof;  
whereby the base coat layer has a UV transmission of less than 0.1% in the wavelength range from 290 to 380 nm and of less than 0.5% in the wavelength range from 380 to 400 nm.

Claim 3 (original): The process of claim 2, wherein the layer thickness of the base coat layer applied from the modified water-borne metallic base coat is 5 to 20  $\mu\text{m}$  and the layer thickness of the base coat layer applied from the unmodified water-borne metallic base coat is 2 to 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 4 (currently amended): The process of claim 2 ~~or 3~~, wherein the modified water-borne metallic base coat is applied by electrostatically-assisted high-speed rotary atomization and the unmodified water-borne metallic base coat is pneumatically spray-applied.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The process of claims 2, ~~3 or 4~~ wherein the admixture component imparts primer surfacer properties.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The process of any one of claims 2 ~~to 5~~, wherein the admixture component polyisocyanate cross-linking agents, polyurethane resins and filler pastes.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The process of ~~any one of the preceding claims 2~~, wherein the pigment content of the unmodified water-borne metallic base coats consists 90 to 100% by weight of least one non-leafing aluminum pigment with a platelet thickness of over 100 to 500 nm and 0 to 10% by weight of at least one pigment different from aluminum pigments.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The process of ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ 2 wherein at least 70% by weight of the non-leafing aluminum pigment(s) are selected from the group consisting of non-leafing aluminum pigments passivated by chromating, non-leafing aluminum pigments coated with a silicon-oxygen network and combinations thereof.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The process of ~~any one of claims 1-7~~ claim 2, wherein all of the non-leafing aluminum pigment(s) are selected from the group consisting of non-leafing aluminum pigments passivated by chromating, non-leafing aluminum pigments coated with a silicon-oxygen network and combinations thereof.

Claim 10 (Canceled)

Claim 11 (currently amended): The process of ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 2, wherein the substrates are selected from the group consisting of automotive bodies and body parts.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A substrate Substrates coated according to the process of ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 2.